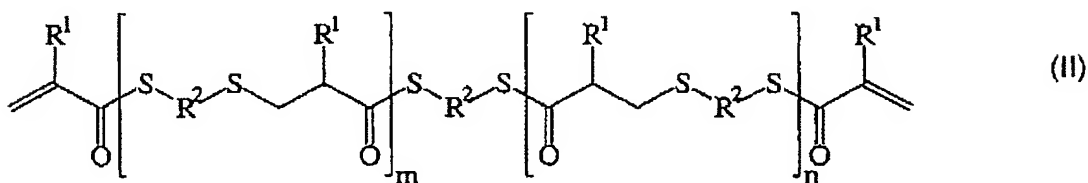


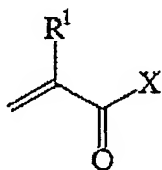
IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing a transparent plastic,
comprising:
polymerizing a mixture[[,]] comprising the compounds of the formula I and
formula II

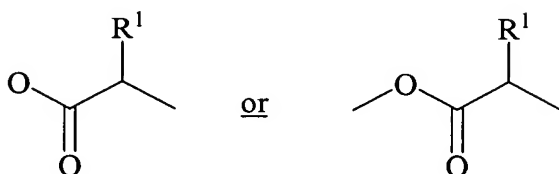


where R^1 is independently at each instance hydrogen or a methyl radical, R^2 is independently at each instance a linear or branched, aliphatic or cycloaliphatic radical or a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic or heteroaromatic radical, and m and n are each independently an integer of not less than 0, subject to the proviso that $m + n > 0$, and
wherein ~~they contain~~ the mixture contains more than 10 mol%, based on the total amount of the compound as per formula (I) and (II), of compounds of the formula (II) where $m + n = 2$, prepared by ~~using reacting, in the presence of a solvent L,~~ 1.0 to less than 2.0 mol of at least one compound of the formula (III)

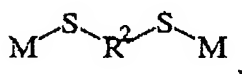


(III)

where X is chlorine or a radical of formula



with one mole of at least one polythiol of the formula (IV)



(IV)

where M is independently at each instance hydrogen or a metal cation[[],];

~~and in that a~~ wherein the solvent L is at least one of acetone, acetonitrile, acetophenone, benzyl acetate, n-butyl acetate, quinoline, chlorobenzene, o-chlorotoluene, m-chlorotoluene, p-chlorotoluene, o-dichlorobenzene, m-dichlorobenzene, diethyl ether, diisopropyl ether, dimethyl phthalate, dipropyl ether, ethyl acetate, ethyl benzoate, ethyl butyrate, ethyl formate, ethyl salicylate, isoquinoline, 2-methoxyethyl acetate, methyl acetate, methyl benzoate, methyl butyrate, methyl ethyl ketone, methyl formate, methyl isoamyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, methyl propionate, 2-methylpyridine, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, methyl salicylate, nitrobenzene, o-nitrotoluene, m-nitrotoluene, p-nitrotoluene, 2-pentanone, 3-pentanone, phenyl acetate, propyl formate, pyridine, tetrahydrofuran or mixtures thereof.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the polymerization is carried out under a protective gas atmosphere.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one compound of the formula (III) is selected from the group consisting of acrylic anhydride, methacrylic anhydride ~~or~~ and mixtures thereof.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one polythiol of the formula (IV) is ethanedithiol.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one compound of the formula (IV) is ~~used~~ reacted in the form of an aqueous alkaline solution which contains 1.1 to 1.5 equivalents of at least one Bronsted base, based on the total amount of the at least one compound of the formula (III).

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one compound of the formula (III) and the at least one compound of the formula (IV) are reacted by concurrent metering ~~concurrently metered~~ into a reaction vessel in at least one inert organic solvent L and in an aqueous alkaline solution, respectively.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 1, wherein the polymerization is carried out at temperatures in the range from 20°C to 80°C.

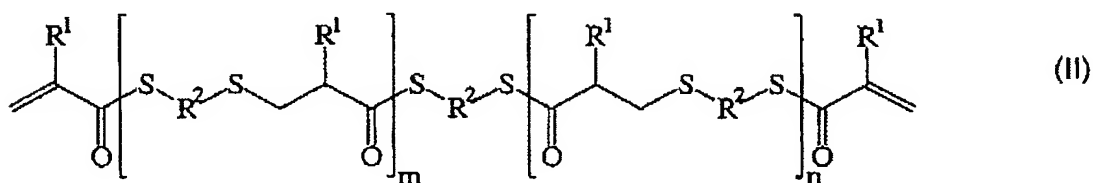
Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 1, wherein an acidic ion exchanger is ~~used~~ present during the polymerizing or during the reacting.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): A transparent plastic prepared according to the process of Claim 1.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): An optical lens comprising the transparent plastic as claimed in Claim 9.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The optical lens of Claim 10, wherein the lens is an ophthalmic lens.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing a mixture[[,]] comprising the compounds of the formula I and formula II



where R¹ is independently at each instance hydrogen or a methyl radical, R² is independently at each instance a linear or branched, aliphatic or cycloaliphatic radical or a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic or heteroaromatic radical, and m and n are each independently an integer of not less than 0, subject to the proviso that m + n > 0, and

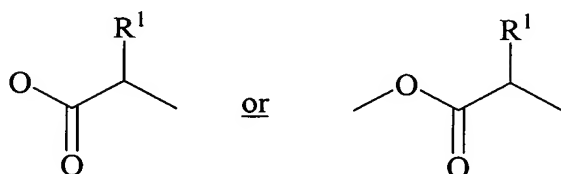
wherein ~~they contain~~ the mixture contains more than 10 mol%, based on the total amount of the compound as per formula (I) and (II), of compounds of the formula (II) where $m + n = 2$,
and

wherein said process ~~comprising~~ comprises:

reacting 1.0 to less than 2.0 mol of at least one compound of the formula (III)



where X is chlorine or a radical



with one mole of at least one polythiol of the formula (IV)



where M is independently at each instance hydrogen or a metal cation.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): A mixture comprising the compounds of the formula I and formula II, prepared by the process of Claim 12.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the reaction is carried out under protective gas atmosphere.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the at least one compound of the formula (III) is selected from the group consisting of acrylic anhydride, methacrylic anhydride or and mixtures thereof.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the at least one polythiol of the formula (IV) is ethanedithiol.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 12, wherein the at least one compound of the formula (IV) is used reacted in the form of an aqueous alkaline solution which contains 1.1 to 1.5 equivalents of at least one Bronsted base, based on the total amount of the at least one compound of the formula (III).

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 12, wherein during the reacting the at least one compound of the formula (III) and the at least one compound of the formula (IV) are concurrently metered into a reaction vessel in at least one inert organic solvent L and in an aqueous alkaline solution, respectively.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 12, wherein ~~reaction~~ the reacting is carried out at temperatures in the range from 20°C to 80°C.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): The process according to Claim 12, wherein an acidic ion exchanger is ~~used~~ present during the reacting.